

REMARKS

Favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Applicants have amended claims 1, 3 and 6-9, and canceled claims 2, 4 and 5. Accordingly claims 1, 3 and 6-9 remain pending for consideration.

Examiner Strimbu is kindly thanked for indicating that claims 5 and 7 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form and amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claim 1 has been rewritten to include all of the features recited in claims 2, 4 and 5. Thus, claim 1 as amended corresponds to allowable claim 5 (canceled) and is allowable.

Applicants have moved the paragraph beginning on line 9 of page 2 to page 3. No new matter was added by this amendment.

The drawings stand objected to because of the section lines and absence of cross-hatching in Figures 2-4, respectively. Submitted herewith are replacement sheets for Figures 2-4 which contain the requested changes to the drawings.

The specification also stands objected to because of various informalities. Applicants have amended the specification in response to these objections. In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request that the objections to the drawings and specification be withdrawn.

Claims 1-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicants have amended claims 1, 2 and 5 (as reflected in amended claim 1), as well as 6 and 9. In view of these amendments, Applicants request that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.


It is believed that this application is in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application or should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference with the undersigned would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues pertaining to this application the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL PC

Date: January 27, 2006

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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached two sheets of drawings includes changes to Figs. 2-4.

The first sheet, which includes Fig. 2, replaces the original sheet including Fig.

2. In Fig. 2, the section lines are changed from C-C to 3-3.

The second sheet, which includes Fig. 3, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 3. In Fig. 3, the section lines are changed from D-D to 4-4 and cross hatching is added.

The third sheet, which includes Fig. 4, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 4. In Fig. 4 cross hatching is added.